

IN RECOGNITION OF PAM  
FRISELLA

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 3, 2013*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Pam Frisella, one of the finest and most selfless public servants I know. Pam is retiring today as the mayor of Foster City and has served on the city council for eight years. She was vice mayor in 2007 and mayor in 2008. For Foster City, Pam's departure is not simply a retirement. It's the equivalent of watching a ship raise its anchor. Pam has been that anchor of security throughout many exciting and challenging times in the city.

In 1998, Pam graduated from a leadership program sponsored by several Bay Area cities. The class helped her focus on how to best apply her talents and her dedication to community service. She saw that she could be highly effective by playing an active role in city government.

She joined the city council in 2006, two years before the global recession hit. Always a fiscally-prudent person, Pam worked hard with her colleagues to close the budget gap that was created by the recession. Foster City, although built relatively recently, also has a large infrastructure in constant need of maintenance, repair and replacement. This is expensive, but Pam is dedicated to maintaining the quality of life that residents expect. In part due to Pam's efforts, the city this year will likely cure its structural deficit and its infrastructure investments have been wise and timely.

The center of Foster City is in flux. Pam joined with her colleagues to identify the needs of the community and to envision mixed uses for this area. She supported an updating to the business license fee, the city's land use elements, and supported city efforts to conserve water and to improve the reliability of the city's water system.

Pam is a strong supporter of affordable housing and served on the board of the Housing Endowment and Regional Trust. Because community service is in her blood, she has volunteered for 20 years for Samaritan House which serves low income families and individuals in San Mateo County. Samaritan House named her volunteer of the year in 1995. In 1999, Safe Harbor Homeless Shelter awarded her the same honor. Pam is also giving prison ministry at San Quentin Prison. She is an ambassador for the Foster City Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Rotary Club. As you can tell from this description, Pam Frisella is a spark plug, igniting others into action and setting an exhausting pace of volunteer and civic engagement.

Pam has been a county and regional leader. Over the years she has served as Foster City's representative to the Association of Bay Area Governments, the City County Association of Governments, the Emergency Services Council, the joint powers board of the county-wide library system, and as liaison to the high school district.

Pam was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. After attending Western Michigan, she worked for General Motors and then moved to New York City for a career change. Pam moved to California in 1969 and in 1977 to Foster City, a city she came to love.

Pam and I share a painful life experience that initially connected us and cemented our friendship. We both lost a husband while pregnant. Pam's late husband was a baseball player and they moved around the country a lot. They were at spring training with the Milwaukee Brewers when he was killed in an accident on New Year's Day 1977 in Arizona. He was originally from San Mateo and Pam decided to move out here to find a home. She was 30 years old, pregnant and had a three-year-old son, Jason. Three days after she arrived in Foster City, her son Daniel was born. The community welcomed and embraced them and she found what she had hoped for—a home.

Pam coached Little League for eight years and was on the American Youth Soccer Organization Board of Directors for five years. She deserves much credit for the development and construction of Sea Cloud Park, the beautiful home of the Foster City Little League. In 2005, Pam was inducted to the Sports Wall of Fame at Sea Cloud Park. Pam was also the chair for the committee that reconstructed Serra High School's baseball field named after her late husband, Danny Frisella Memorial Field.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Pam Frisella on this day of her retirement. Her strength to overcome adversity, her generosity and her drive have benefitted every resident of Foster City. Her contributions will always be part of the fabric of her beloved home town.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 3, 2013*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained yesterday and missed rollcall Nos. 612 through 614. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall Nos. 612 and 613. I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 614.

INTRODUCING THE NATIONAL  
COMMISSION ON EMPLOYMENT  
AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT  
OF 2013

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 3, 2013*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the National Commission on Employment and Economic Security Act of 2013.

This legislation makes necessary and vital investments in our nation's workforce and their families. It establishes a national commission to examine issues of economic and psychological insecurity within our workforce that have been caused by employment displacement. Furthermore, it will propose solutions, including recommendations for legislative and administrative action, to Congress and the President.

During the recession that began in December 2007 and in the subsequent months, more than 8.7 million jobs were lost. By October

2009, the unemployment rate had reached 10.0 percent, and roughly 15.4 million people were unemployed in our country. In Florida, the unemployment rate reached 11.4 percent in March 2010, and in some states, such as Rhode Island and South Carolina, the unemployment rate rose to just short of 12 percent, peaking at 11.9 percent in early 2010.

Luckily, we are on the road to recovery, and 7.5 million jobs have been created during 42 straight months of private-sector job growth across the country. Unemployment rates have fallen in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Our economy is recovering, but the need for this vital research is no less critical. This is highlighted by current projections from the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), which estimate that the unemployment rate will not fall below 6 percent until the end of 2016, and will remain above 5 percent through 2023.

Mr. Speaker, when Americans lose their jobs and their incomes shrink, too often, they face the loss of their family's health insurance and, subsequent to the loss of income, and even their housing. According to an American Psychological Association (APA) report from February 2013, money (69 percent), work (65 percent), and the economy (61 percent) remain the most frequently cited sources of stress for Americans.

The mental health of the American worker is integral as we continue down the road of economic recovery. Congress must face this problem head on and help those facing long-term unemployment, loss of health insurance, home foreclosure, increased levels of stress, and increased risk of mental illness.

I believe that we have a responsibility to provide the greatest possible assistance to our nation's workforce, whose commitment to economic participation has been a defining feature of the cultural fabric of our country. This Commission will be instrumental in ensuring that we get our nation fully back on track, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 3, 2013*

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 612, I was unable to be present for the vote on H.R. 3547. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 3, 2013*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent during the week of November 18, 2013. If I were present, I would have voted on the following.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2013

Rollcall No. 588: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended H.R. 2061, "yea."

Rollcall No. 589: On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 272, "yea."